A Message from General Cariappa

THE UNITED NATIONS DAY

24th October 1965

1. The signing of the Charter and the establishment of the United Nations Organization by some fifty one Nations on 24th October 1945 represented the beginning of the greatest effort by the peoples of the world to be rid of war and to build together real everlasting peace.

2. The United Nation is one that is international in origin and universal in observance. The day belongs to no single nation, but is shared by all its Members. It does honour to and ~~is~~ honoured by peoples of many different faiths and philosophies but its unique quality is that it emphasizes the common ties that unite them. It is the day which all lands and peoples can acclaim - THE UNITED NATIONS DAY.

3. During its relatively brief history the United Nations has existed under a shadow of fear. In the beginning it was the fear that the problems arising out of World War II might resolve themselves not in peace, but in a new World War. Later it was the fear the local wars would spread to world-wide conflict. In this period of fear there has been the frightening transition from conventional weapons to nuclear missiles in a nuclear space age.

4. The war in space is the latest threat to peace. It is such a tragedy, whilst some one Hundred Nations and more in the world were battling hard to ban ANY further Nuclear tests by ANY Nation that China should have, so flagrantly ignoring the Universal cries and appeals, 'Exploded' her 'Atom Bombs'. This show of her utter disregard for the cries and entreaties of the millions of mankind has alas, brought a dark cloud of fear, anxieties and concern to those who are striving hard

to get Peace - everlasting Peace. China's this unexpected Nuclear adventure will inevitably compel many of her Peace Loving neighbours to do some serious re-thinking of their 'Foreign Policies' - in the interest of the security of their countries and their people. This 're-thinking' has got to come if non-Nuclear countries are to survive as independent and free people.

5. A sober appraisal twenty years after the Charter was signed shows that the world needs the United Nations today more than ever. The fact that full application of all the Charter's provisions has not been possible because of continuing mistrust does not invalidate the Charter; rather it underlines the importance of the United Nations as the means for these contacts and negotiations, public and private, most likely to heal conflict without loss of prestige to either side, and for reducing the dangers to peace.

6. Peace is precarious and welfare uneven. Two power blocs dominate the world, at the United Nations and elsewhere. Neither is strong enough to impose its will on the other without a war which would almost certainly destroy both. Neither can decisively strengthen its political power position by securing the active support of the rest of the world.

Nevertheless, since 1945, conflicts between them and between smaller nations have been received. The record of the 'United Nations' intervention is impressive, in Palestine, Iran, Northern Greece, Indonesia, the Suez, the Lebanon, Indo-China, West Irian, in the Congo, in Cyprus and now in India and Pakistan.

7. In its first twenty years, the United Nations has already become part of the fabric of international life into which it is slowly weaving a new pattern of human solidarity.

These years have proved the worth of the Organization and the need of its member governments and peoples for the essential services it can render in the preservation of peace and the solution of the other problems of international life in the spirit of the Charter.

8. If the United Nations is to continue to develop, small and middle powers must play an increasingly important part, one dictated neither by their own narrow national interests nor by pressures or promises from the big powers. Only if they play their part responsibly, independently and with restraint and wisdom, is the United Nations likely to continue to function as it should.

9. The best way of strengthening the United Nations in the effort to realise its ideals is by asking it to do the things of which it is capable; not those which it cannot do and where failure in an attempt would discredit and weaken it. So far, the Charter of the United Nations has been found to be sufficiently flexible for this purpose. Changes could be made, of course, which would improve the organization.

10. As one of its Founder Member - our Country - INDIA - has the moral obligation to back it up in all its efforts to achieve world peace for ever, with the ultimate fructification of the dream, of a ONE WORLD Order, with free trade, free colonization and freedom for mankind to act and live as free children of God.

Rishianem'
Mercara
Coorg
24 October 1965

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Guard (Retd)